REMARKS

This preliminary amendment makes three categories of changes to the above-identified U.S. national phase patent application, relative to its parent PCT application (Serial No. PCT/US2004/042474, filed December 15, 2004). First, it adds a priority claim to the PCT application in the "Cross-References to Priority Applications." Second, it copies the ninety-seven claims in the PCT application into the specification of the current application, as "Examples," each with the term "claim" replaced with the term "paragraph." Third, it amends the claims in the PCT application, to reduce their total number, and to reference unnecessary and nonlimiting reference designators. Please contact the undersigned attorney of record with any questions.

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

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I hereby certify that this Preliminary Amendment, the associated "Transmittal Letter . . . Concerning a Submission Under 35 U.S.C. 371," and all associated supporting materials are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Respectfully submitted,

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